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US Patrols Harassed in East Berlin

East German police and soldiers have harassed four US Berlin patrols in East Berlin since 24 April.

On 24 and 26 April US patrols were tailed and bumped by East German vehicles, and on 27 April two US patrols were harassed. In one instance East German Army personnel placed special metal blocks under the wheels of the patrol vehicle and spread a blanket over the windshield.

The harassment may be due to East German concern for the security of special military equipment brought into the city for the May Day parade. However, the regime's successful enforcement of illegal travel bans on West Germans may be encouraging bolder actions on the part of the East German military vis-a-vis the US patrols. (~~CONF~~, [redacted]; 29 Apr) (b)(3)

Bulgarian First Deputy Foreign Minister to Visit US

A good will visit to the US by Bulgaria's First Deputy Foreign Minister, Gero Grozev, is in the planning stage.

Accompanied by Marin Ivanov, head of the American countries department, Grozev will leave Sofia on 15 May for a tour of Latin America prior to his arrival in the US. Earlier this month Ivanov made a lateral transfer from head of the Western European department to his present position. Ivanov's appointment came as a surprise since he has not previously been concerned with US relations except for a brief period in the late 1950's.

Grozev's visit will follow closely upon a three week visit by a high-level Bulgarian trade mission scheduled to arrive in the US on 6 May. Other recent improvements in bilateral relations include an agreement to establish radio communications on a reciprocal basis between the embassies and their respective capitals and a reduction of the total off-limits area in Bulgaria for American embassy personnel. (~~LOU~~; [redacted]; 30 Apr) (b)(3)

GROUP I
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Polish Ambassador in US Receives Threatening Letters

A campaign of slander against Polish Ambassador Michalowski and his family in Washington has worsened and he has now been subjected to physical threats.

First Secretary of the Polish Embassy Pawlak told the State Department on 17 April that the Polish Government, "having exhausted its patience," had to "demand positive action" to protect Michalowski and his family from insults and threats on their lives. He gave Department officials copies of two letters recently received by Michalowski, one signed by "J. Jansky," and the other by "John Kowaleski." Both letters demand that the Michalowskis, as "Communist spies," leave the US, and threatens violence against them if they fail to do so.

Pawlak demanded protection for the Michalowski family, protection for the Polish Embassy as a whole, and an investigation of the matter by competent US authorities.

The campaign against Michalowski began earlier this year with slanderous articles in the paper, Government Employees' Exchange, which purported to detail Mrs. Michalowska's alleged involvement in the Warsaw "Sex and Spy" scandals some years ago. (~~LOU,~~ [redacted] 17 Apr) (b)(3)

East Germans Criticize "Sneaky" Americans

The East Germans have expressed an increasing amount of interest in the American military patrols operating out of the US Mission in Potsdam. These patrols make periodic reconnaissance trips throughout the GDR under four power auspices. [redacted] (b)(1) (b)(3)

Prepared by: [redacted] (b)(3) (b)(6)

NOTE: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE REPRESENT ONLY THE ANALYSIS OF THE EE DIVISION

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